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5 November 1947

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TO: The Assistant Director, R & E

FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Comment on draft memorandum for the Director,  
"Establishment of a Series of National Situation  
Reports."

1. I concur heartily in the tenor of the draft, but suggest certain verbal changes as set forth below.

2. Para. 1, last line: I believe "reconsideration" would be more precise than "revision."

3. Para. 2: The introduction calls for three specifications, but only two are given. Para. 4: The penultimate sentence seems to me somewhat inaccurate. For these and other reasons which will be apparent, I suggest that paragraphs 2 - 4 be revised as in Annex A.

4. Para. 6: The true distinction to be made between ORE's and SR's is not one of levels (as in the ICAPS concept) but one of functions (as in para. 2 a of the draft). Brief summaries are customarily provided in both series — the idea of summaries in ORE's should not now be put forward as an innovation. Rigid limitation of summaries to one page is unrealistic. The most concise treatment will often require at least two. Our average, I suppose, is about two. Even Gen. Marshall, in the J.C.S., allowed two as the rule and often got 2½. Of course we should strive to keep it to one page. I suggest that paragraphs 6 - 7 be revised as in Annex B.

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[REDACTED]  
Chief, Global Survey Group

cc Asst. Dir.  
Plans & Policy Staff  
Estimates Group  
File

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